

Dec 28th

Well, I did not make out ~~of~~ get the letter to town and so you must necessarily meet with disappointment again. It has been very bad weather for some days past and no boats have dared ventured out from town. I shall finish this and send it in by the very first chance and as today is very pleasant I expect some boats here tonight. There is nothing new to write and I have not heard from Lod since Mr Maynard returned. The laborers are still busy at work on the road and I think they will be here until about the 15th Jany. When they leave I shall probably go to town with them as my Quarterly Returns are due on the last of this month and I shall have to go on account of settling for the mens' board. and I shall probably remain in the city a week or so as I wish to look around a little and see the folks. My acquaintance however is not very extensive and I always stay with Lod and his family when I am in town and make it my home there. You wrote in your last letter that Harriet and Charlie Dudley had received a letter from Mrs Spicer in which my name was mentioned &c I passed a very agreeable evening with them I can assure you for if you recollect. Mrs. Spicer is an old schoolmate of mine and about my own age and you can rest assured that I asked her some questions in the course of the evening about the young folks at home for I knew she was posted and would with pleasure give me all the information she could. A few days after I went aboard again and staid the whole forenoon.

I have been on board most of the Mystic ships that have been out here but I have not always made myself known. Those with whom I am acquainted I generally call on but there are some that I have no desire to become acquainted with. When Capt Gates was here I went aboard and saw Mr. Leeds and Chat. Gates but did not see the Capt and when Capt Holmes is here I always go to see him and Charlie Niles but to tell you the truth these are about all I care about seeing for I have not so good an opinion of several of the Mystic Captains as perhaps many others have and that is the reason why I do not go to see them. I am pleased to hear that my old friends & schoolmates at home have not entirely forgotten me and I can assure them that I should be very glad indeed to see them all once more and perhaps the time will come when I shall have the pleasure of again shaking many of them by the hand. I should like to be at home this winter to enjoy some of your parties and sleighrides. for I could I think take lots of comfort as winter is my favorite season at home but I must content myself where I am a while longer I don't know but by the time I get home I shall be too old to be recognized by the young people and have to content myself with a nod of recognition and be satisfied with even that small favor. However I trust there may be some who will be glad to see me should I ever reach home again and I assure you I am trying my best at the present time for that sole purpose. I hope you will keep me posted in regard to the young folks for if I am a little advanced in years I take a great interest in their affairs and am always anxious to hear how they get along. Well Horace I hardly know what to write to fill up this sheet for if you have any idea or have ever read of a God-forsaken country this is certainly the very spot. Nothing but a barren rocky island, with the continual roar of the surf breaking on the rocks. That is the only sound to be heard,

"From morn to noon,

From noon till dewy eve."



After the work is done in the morning we have nothing of any account to do until sunset and I assure you it is hard work to while away the hours and if I had not one of the very best of men for a companion (Mr Maynard) I don't know but I should almost forget my name and genealogy and nothing but the prospect of getting home again would ever induce me to stay in such an isolated & gloomy place. I have but very little to say to the 2nd & 3rd Assts for you recollect the old proverb "Familiarity breeds contempt." I tell them when I want anything done and that is about as far as our acquaintance extends but Mr M and I are like brothers and he is without exception one of the best men I ever met with. We have made our calculations to go home together and perhaps (if affairs work as we anticipate) go into business together. But I must close as I am getting towards the bottom of the sheet Mr M told me that Lod sent you a paper containing my letter so I will keep the one I have for another purpose Give my love to all the family and particularly to our little niece and believe me as ever

Your affectionate brother

Amos